

Message Text

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63

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 FAA-00 DOTE-00 EUR-12 /026 W

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R 161125Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4957

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP MR

SUBJECT: U.S. AVIATION AND GROUND SUPPORT TRADE MISSION

REF: NOUAKCHOTT 2604 (NOTAL)

1. IN ADDITION TO DME AND ILS EQUIPMENT CITED REFTTEL, GIRM IS NOW EXPLORING POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING SUB-FLIGHT INFORMATION REGION (FIR) IN ATAR, LOCATED IN CENTRAL PART OF MAURITANIA. DAKAR FIR NOW SERVES MAURITANIA. AS RESULT OF INCREASED AIR ACTIVITY IN NORTHERN PART OF COUNTRY STEMMING FROM WAR EFFORT IN WESTERN SAHARA, GIRM (AND PARTICULARLY AIR FORCE) IS DESIROUS OF CREATING SUB-FIR. IF DECISION IS MADE TO ESTABLISH SUB-FIR, IT WILL INVOLVE PURCHASE OF FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT:

A. TWO DOUBLED VHF TRANSMITTERS/RECEIVERS EXTENDED RANGE, AIR/GROUND;

B. THREE DOUBLED HF TRANSMITTERS/RECEIVERS, AIR/GROUND;

C. FIVE TAPE RECORDERS;

D. RADIO/TELETYPE LIAISON WITH NOUAKCHOTT;

E. ABOUT FIVE CONTROLLER-TO-CONTROLLER HFSSB'S;

F. THREE TO FIVE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLER CONSOLES.

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ESTIMATED VALUE OF PURCHASE IS \$1 MILLION.

2. IF GIRM MOVES AHEAD WITH IDEA, KNOWLEDGEABLE CIVIL AVIATION OFFICIAL REPORTS FRENCH WILL HAVE INSIDE TRACK ON SALE. ASECNA IS RUN BY MAURITANIANS WITH CLOSE TIES TO FRENCH AND OFFICIAL BELIEVES ASECNA WILL INSIST UPON FRENCH EQUIPMENT. NOR IS THERE ANY INDICATION WHERE GIRM WILL FIND FUNDS TO PAY FOR THIS MATERIAL.

3. COMMENT: IN SPITE OF IMPORTANT CAVEATS CITED PARA 2 ABOVE, WE THINK TIME IS RIPE FOR INTERESTED AMERICAN COMPANIES TO DISCUSS POSSIBIE SALE OF AVIATION EQUIPMENT WITH APPROPRIATE GIRM OFFICIALS. WE WISH TO POINT OUT THAT VIRUTALLY ALL DISCUSSIONS WITH MAURITANIANS WILL, OF NECESSITY, TAKE PLACE IN FRENCH.HANDYSIDE

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